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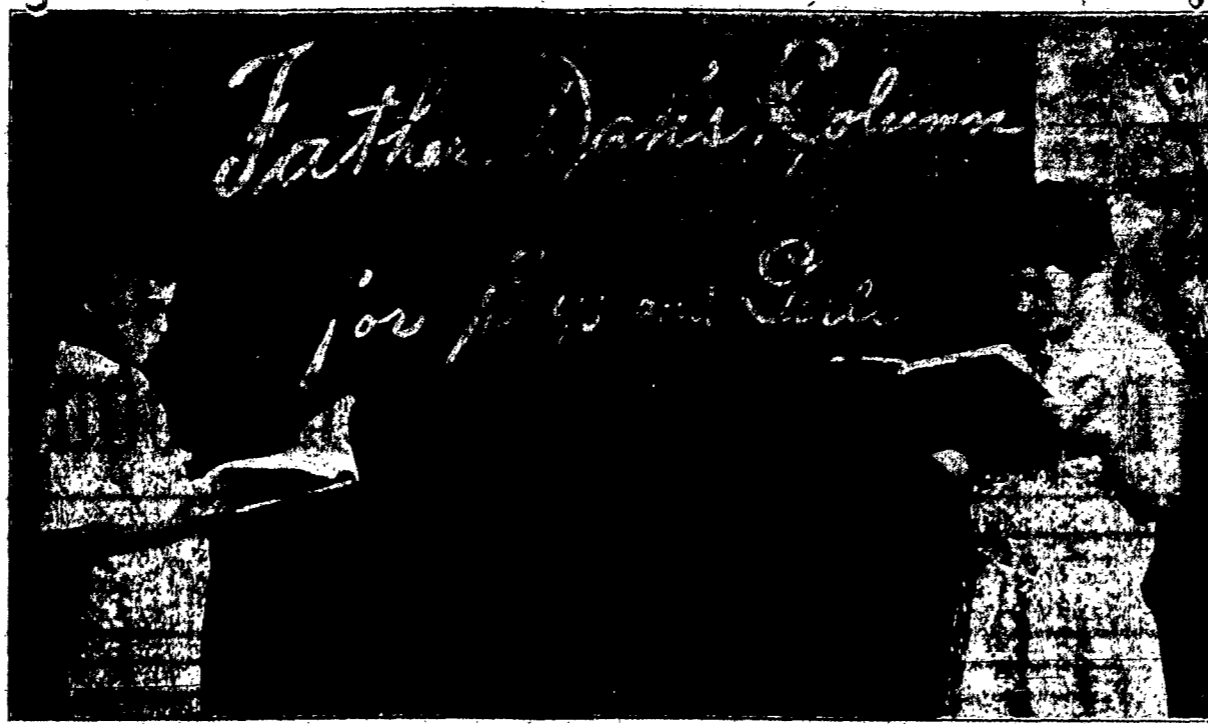
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### A Cousin of Noah Webster

Albert Geyssois is a pupil in the eighth grade of St. Philip's school. Sister Genevieve is his teacher. Albert has had many "ups and downs" in the 14 year of his life, and I recall a few of them here because I know "Al" is a good scout and will not mind a bit if the world knows all about his tribulations. Last year Albert did not attend St. Philip's. His parents had sent him away to school—to a very fine Catholic military school, so that he would grow up with strong, straight shoulders and be a great soldier like all his uncles were in the World War. "Al" wanted to go to the military school because he said he wanted to look like "Albert, King of the Belgians." You see, Albert's parents are from that wonderful Catholic country across the sea that became famous for brave men during the recent war. But after "Al" had spent two days in the military academy he was lonesome, and then his troubles began. "Al" missed his father and mother. After all, he was quite small to be away from home. But let us see some of "Al's" lonesome letters to the folks at home. Albert doesn't mind you reading these letters. He will be glad to show you the originals if you will ask him.

#### Letter No. 1

"Dear parents: I got here yesterday at 10, and want to go home again. This school is a joke, and I am a prisoner. I wish I was dead, if you let me come home again I will be a model boy. If I die here, please bury me at home. I am despondent. I feel like killing someone. I here there is going to be a circus in Rochester next week. Can't I start Saturday? I'll bet Margaret forgot to feed my Koeny bird and it is dead. If it is I want to come home for its funeral.

Your beloved son,  
"Albert"

#### Letter 2

"Dear parents: Why don't you send me tickets to come home? I can't buy any. My money is all gone. I did not wait it. I spent most of it on cream puffs, which are good and healthy. My appetite is going. I feel just like I did before I had the scarlet fever and nearly died. This morning at breakfast a boy was very rude to me. When I got done eating I stretched my arms, threw back my head and had a good yawn. While I was in the middle of it the fellow next to me caught my mouth and tried to keep it open. He said he wanted to see how I was made inside. Wasn't he rude? All the boys here are like him. So are the teachers. Your little son will be very rude if he stays here very long. Please send me tickets right away. Send them by telegraf.

Your affectionate son,  
"Albert"

"My dear parents: My heart is breaking. I have been studying arithmetic a hour. It is awful. When I get home tell sister Margaret I will be a good brother to her. I'll punch that Charley Turpin's nose if he pushes her in the snow bank. Just take me away from this jail, and I'll be the best boy you ever saw. I'll never answer back. I'll do exactly what I'm told. If the tickets don't come to-morrow I shall put my Sunday suit and come home on a frate. Before I fell asleep last night there was a big tier on my cheek. That was because I was thinking of you, sister Margaret and my pet white mouse. I have an awful stomach-ache this morning. The doctor says it is much cream puffs. The doctor is a idiot. It is my health that is breaking down. To-day the teacher read my first composition. He said I must be some relation to Noah Webster. That is because I spell so good. Have we got any relations by the name of Webster? And is he a great speller? The Teacher told me to find out.

Your suffering son,  
"Albert"

#### The Fourth and Last Letter

"My dear parents: I've never not send my tickets. I belong to the baseball line and can't come home. I play short Stop. And if I come home there won't be any to play. I must stay. Today we played a nuther team and taught me some lessons. I made three put outs and no assists without an error. I made a second base twice. I also made a base hit, and the captain said I was a Bird. Last night I went to confession, and this morning to Communion. I had a scruple. Some of the things I said about this school is extravagant. I don't a job. The boys are not all Mean. The teachers are not Mean either. When I said I expected to die I told a lie. I told the priest all about it. We have a nuther game Chewsday. I bet he'll bind the bat. I got your letter. You asked me if I wanted to go home. Whatever made you think that? I want to stay here until graduation. What are you talking about sending me tickets for? I didn't want to go home. I always new I should like this place. Maybe I growed a little in my first letters, but not much. Please give my white mouse to Charley Turpin. I don't have time to miss you much. I am studying hard. I use a dictionary when I write now. And I get a big boy to correct my spelling. That is why you will find no spelling faults in this letter. We are going to play another team to-morrow. Maybe we want learn them something about baseball.

Your happy son,  
"Albert"

Albert's year at the military academy was one glorious dream. Strange to say, he finished the year at the very top of his class in nearly everything—even spelling. And his shoulders are big and broad. Too it does one good to watch his main carriage. And Albert can sing beautifully. In all things our "Al" is quite a "regular teller." They boys are not made. I know all our little friends will be glad to hear more about "Al," and I know a great deal more that I can tell.

### Prize of \$500 Offered By C.P.A. For Best Essays

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Chicago, Jan. 2.—Five hundred dollars in cash will be offered as prizes in a National Essay Contest to be conducted under the Literary Awards Foundation of the Catholic Press Association during the calendar year 1930. It was announced here this week by J. H. Meier, publisher of The Catholic Press Directory and Secretary of the C. P. A.

A check for \$500 will be the first prize for the best essay on any subject "Catholic Colleges and Catholic Leadership," and \$200 will be awarded as the second prize for the second best essay on the same subject. The contest is open to any student of a Catholic college in the United States. Only two essays will be awarded in this essay contest, and, to make the awards attractive, the amounts were fixed by the Executive Board at \$300 and \$200.

Awards Fund is Growing  
These prizes are being offered under the Literary Awards Foundation, which was established to stimulate, encourage and reward Catholic writers and literary workers. The plan is to obtain 500 Life Members of the C. P. A. and to use the fund thus realized to make awards annually for the best books on various types, for the best short stories, poems, essays, and other forms of literature. The Life Membership fee is \$100. Thus far, 130 Life Memberships have been obtained, but when the full number of 500 has been raised, the annual prize money will be in the neighborhood of \$2,500.

C. P. A. Committee in Charge  
The 1930 essay contest will be in charge of the Literature Bureau of the Association. The members of this committee are the Rev. Wilfrid Parsons, S. J., editor of America, New York; Chairman; Richard Reid, editor of The Bulletin, Augusta, Ga.; and John F. McCormick, business manager of The Commonwealth, New York.

The number of words to be contained in the essays and the rules and regulations governing the contest will be announced later.

The Catholic Courier and Journal—A Paper that should be in every Catholic Home in Rochester, Every

### Nazareth College

The Christmas vacation will close January 5. It was unexpectedly extended from the 3rd of January to the 5th. Resident students will report at the College Sunday evening.

The College Chapel was beautifully decorated for midnight Mass. The students and their friends attended for the first time at the College, and were given the privilege of receiving Holy Communion.

The Christmas subscription dance was given by the Nazareth College Club, December 30, in the K. O. C. ballroom. A unique entertainment was planned by the Entertainment Committee, with Marion O'Neill in charge. The general chairman was Helen Guntert, assisted by Katherine Walsh. Martha Clark was publicity chairman.

The Christmas party at the College was an outstanding success. Bishop O'Hern, Mother Sylvester and the faculty were present, and contributed to the general enjoyment. A well-arranged program was given, and everyone received small but appropriate gifts from the grab-bag. A silver tea service, engraved with the College seal, was presented to the Dean.

The Alumnae of Nazareth College gave a dinner at the College, December 26. A large number of the Alumnae were present, and had as guests the Rt. Rev. John F. O'Hern, D.D., the faculty, and other friends closely connected with the College. General chairman for the dinner was Clementine Koch, assisted by Mary Swan, Marion Popp, Helen Ritz, Jean Hayward and Rosemary Edelman. The officers of the Alumnae for the current year are: Margaret McPhee, President; Evelyn Rosan, Vice-President; Marion Popp, Secretary, and Mary Swan, Treasurer. These four officers and four other members from the other class make up the Board of Directors.

### Charleston Is Left \$5,000 Burse Fund

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 3.—Mrs. L. L. Bulman, widely known Columbia woman who died a few weeks ago, left \$5,000 as a burse for education of young priests in the Diocese of Charleston. A similar sum was presented to the Rt. Rev. Emmet M. Walsh, Bishop of the Diocese, a few days ago for the same purpose.

### Dr. Ellen Ryan Jolly Awarded Papal Medal

Providence, R. I., Jan. 3.—The Papal Medal "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" has been conferred upon Dr. Ellen Ryan Jolly, author of "The Nuns of the Battlefield," according to an announcement by the Rt. Rev. William A. Hickey, Bishop of Providence.

Dr. Jolly is a past national president of the Ladies' Auxiliary, A. O. H. She is the 14th member of the Providence diocese to receive papal honors since Bishop Hickey's ad limina visit to Rome last summer. The awarding of the Papal Medal follows similar honors conferred on nine Catholic laymen at Woonsocket on November 3, when eight were made Knights of St. Gregory and one received the "Bene Merenti" medal. On that occasion, also, Msgr. Charles Danry was made a protonotary apostolic. Four other priests of the diocese have since been raised to the rank of domestic prelate.

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### Development Planned Villanova College

Villanova, Pa., Jan. 3.—A program of development for Villanova College will be drawn up by a committee of prominent Philadelphia citizens, in consultation with the college administration. It has been announced by William J. McGinnis, president of the Continental Equitable Title and Trust Company, and chairman of the committee. The first step will be a survey of the college's equipment and position. This survey will be the foundation of the program of development. Decisions will be made as to what, if any, new school will be opened at Villanova, and other features of development will be outlined.

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